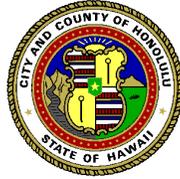


HONOLULU FIRE COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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WILLIAM HONG
DENNIS MORTON

Minutes of Regular Public Meeting
Honolulu Fire Department Headquarters
Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium
Wednesday, November 20, 2019

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Nagamine called the regular meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Craig Nagamine, Charlotte Nekota, Max Hannemann, Dennis Morton, William Hong, James Wataru, and Stefanie Lee.

IN ATTENDANCE: Fire Chief Manuel Neves (HFD), Deputy Fire Chief Lionel Camara, Jr. (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Scott Lawton (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Socrates Bratakos (HFD), Assistant Fire Chief Jason Samala (HFD), Battalion Chief Reid Yoshida (HFD), Battalion Chief Damien Kahaulelio (HFD), Battalion Chief Jarin Wong (HFD), Battalion Chief Wayne Masuda (HFD), Battalion Chief Robert Thurston (HFD), Battalion Chief Alan Park (HFD), Battalion Chief Brett Mau (HFD), Battalion Chief Dean DeMello (HFD), Battalion Chief Joseph Kostiha (HFD), Battalion Chief Carlton Yamada (HFD), Battalion Chief David Morgan (HFD), Battalion Chief Craig Uchimura (HFD), Battalion Chief Paul Kato (HFD), Battalion Chief Mark Nakagawa (HFD), Battalion Chief Paul Fukuda (HFD), Battalion Chief Keith Yasui (HFD), Battalion Chief John Bowers (HFD), Battalion Chief John Pacheco (HFD), Battalion Chief Bryan Soares (HFD), Battalion Chief Daryl Evanligelista (HFD), Andrew Yim (HFD), Daisy Canite-Miyashiro (HFFA), Brian Ancheta (Corporation Counsel), and Nadine Murata.

II. PUBLIC TESTIMONY. Chair Nagamine asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to give public testimony. There was none.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2019. Chair Nagamine called for any comments or corrections to the minutes of the regular public meeting of October 23, 2019. Commissioner Wataru moved and Commissioner Nekota seconded. There being no further comments or corrections and with a unanimous vote in favor, the Commission approved the minutes.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2019. Chair Nagamine called for any comments or corrections to the executive session minutes of October 23, 2019. Commissioner Wataru moved and Commissioner Nekota seconded. There being no comments or corrections and with a unanimous vote in favor, the Commission approved the executive session minutes.

V. REPORT OF THE FIRE CHIEF. Fire Chief Neves passed out copies of his monthly report for October 2019 and highlighted the following:

1. Fires. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that there were 2 fatalities in an automobile accident, 4 structural fires and 1 diving incident. Details of the fire incidents can be found in the monthly report.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the department is trying to keep the community safe by providing public service announcements via radio and television.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that he sends out safety messages every Tuesday on KSSK at 8:30 a.m.

Fire Chief Neves asked the Commission if there were any concerns on the fire incidents. There were none.

2. Hazardous Conditions. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the department responded to 47 weather-related emergencies.

- 1 Blown roof
- 9 Water evacuations
- 11 Downed power lines
- 12 Arcing wires
- 14 Downed trees

3. Equipment Status. Fire Chief Neves informed the Commission that there were 9 frontline apparatuses that were out of service.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that HFD's superintendent of the maintenance shop will speak later in the meeting on how apparatuses are maintained.

4. Vacancies. Fire Chief Neves went over vacancies with the Commission and mentioned that 44 FFR I's are expected to graduate and will be assigned to fire suppression in January 2020. Total Vacancies will increase at the end of the year due to retirement. Details can be found in the monthly report.
5. Injuries- Report of Industrial Injury or Illness (ISWC). Fire Chief Neves went over the injury list with the Commission (15 injuries; 6 missed work) as well as the loss of time incidents. He said HFD talked to the City's workers comp group and asked what the department could do to prevent and shorten its loss time. They were told that HFD is actually on the best City departments in this area.
6. Grievances. Details are in the monthly report.

The Fire Chief also reported on the following:

1. During the month of October, HFD received 3 complimentary correspondences and no complaints. Details are in the monthly report.
2. Fire Chief Neves went over station visitations, and indicated that they were taking a break in visits until January 2020.

October 2019 (25/1,235)

3. Fire Chief Neves mentioned that there will be a Promotion Ceremony on December 9, 2019, at 5:30 p.m. at the Word of Life Christian Center.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that Assistant Chiefs, Battalion Chiefs, and Fire Fighter II's will be promoted.

4. Fire Chief Neves had each member of the executive staff give a brief description of their sections' recent activities.

Deputy Fire Chief Lionel Camara, Jr.- Chief Camara informed the Commission that the department is working on creating its senior pilot position and is in collaboration with FAA's recommendations.

Chief Camara went over senior pilot positions.

Chief Camara mentioned that the pilot and senior pilot will be on duty every day.

Chief Camara mentioned that the 3 senior pilot duties will be broken down to safety, training, and maintenance.

Chief Camara mentioned that once it's created through the Department of Human Resources (DHR) the department will start the hiring process.

Chief Camara mentioned the description for Fire Fighter III's position for refueling was not defined and will be added.

Assistant Fire Chief Scott Lawton- Administrative Services. Chief Lawton went over apparatus procurement with the Commission. Chief Lawton mentioned that this procurement is overseen by Battalion Chief Lance Gaspar.

Chief Lawton went over the operational life spans of an apparatus; engines 10 – 15 years, aerials 15 – 20, and other apparatuses including hazmat and rescues 10 – 15 years.

Chief Lawton informed the Commission that it's not only based on years but engine hours, wear and tear, and odometer readings.

Chief Lawton mentioned once determined, the department's apparatus committee develops the specs. Chief Lawton indicated that it could take up to 2 – 3 years for the department to get the apparatuses funded.

Chief Lawton informed the Commission currently there are 2 tiller apparatuses under construction, 2 rescue trucks that will be going in a midpoint inspection, and in process for work are 7 pumpers.

Chief Lawton mentioned the departments will be soliciting and will be getting a bid from the City for 2 quint apparatuses.

Assistant Fire Chief Jason Samala- Support Services. Chief Samala updated Ordinance 19-4 Relating to Fire Safety and Life Safety Evaluations with the Commission.

Chief Samala indicated that, as of November 12, 2019, 9 out of 350 buildings have not sent in their compliance letters acknowledging that they will provide a life safety evaluations or install sprinkler systems.

Chief Samala mentioned that they have till May 3, 2021 to submit their life safety evaluations and pass the life safety evaluation by May 3, 2024.

Chief Samala mentioned that the department will take a proactive approach and send reminders as well as attend board meetings.

Commissioner Nekota asked what the building height threshold is.

Chief Samala answered anything higher than 75 feet.

Fire Chief Neves added that this is the final outcome of standards determined in 2018, and by attending board meetings and sending inspectors to nudge the process along, this will allow for a safer community.

Chair Nagamine asked if Chief Samala is the person who receives these letters.

Chief Samala explained the process of the compliance letter.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that under Chief Samala there are two groups, the code section who will conduct the inspection and the education section are tasked to put out safety announcements to the public.

Assistant Fire Chief Socrates Bratakos- Planning and Development. Chief Bratakos spoke on the new Motorola P25 radios.

Chief Bratakos mentioned with these new standard radios (cost: \$3.25 million), the department is now able to communicate with other state, federal, and county agencies.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that these radios have replaced 600 portable hand held radios on the trucks and work stations.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that the software in the trucks and stations will be updated to work on the new system at the newly constructed Joint Traffic Management Center (JTMC).

Chief Bratakos indicated by early next year the department will be moving into the new facility and old radios will be given to other agencies.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the new radios will transmit encrypted messages, and that the old radios will be given to non-emergency agencies such as the zoo and the department will continue to service them.

Commissioner Morton asked where is the JTMC.

Chief Bratakos explained where the new location was located.

Fire Chief Neves introduced Dean DeMello and asked him to give a brief overview of the maintenance shop.

Mr. DeMello introduced himself and mentioned that repair and maintenance are the primary responsibilities of the shop.

Mr. DeMello mentioned repairs range from engines, jet skis to small equipment. Helicopters and SCBAs are not included.

Mr. DeMello went over man power which consists of 12 mechanic positions, 2 small equipment, 2 parts clerk, and 3 office staff.

Mr. DeMello indicated that the department has over 300 vehicles which is divided into sections such as small equipment (jet skis, nozzles, Jaws of Life) and mechanics will work on everything else.

Mr. DeMello went over NFPA 1911, the guideline regulations that the department follows under the state, federal and Department of Transportation.

Mr. DeMello mentioned that maintenance checks are conducted daily as well as monthly checks.

Commissioner Wataru excused himself at 2:27 p.m.

Mr. DeMello went over service maintenance and indicated that there are 3 levels. The first being A service (6,800 miles), B service (20,000 miles; A service + fluid service – samples, etc.), and C service (34,000 – 36,000 miles; A & B service, plus hoses, valves, etc. are changed out). Checks are measured by odometer readings and engine hours.

Mr. DeMello mentioned that HFD was the first department to use Telematics which transmits messages in real time from trucks to the superintendent's smartphone and notifies the shop that something could be wrong with an engine in service.

Commissioner Morton asked with technology is there a monitor on the truck gives directions to get to an incident.

Fire Chief Neves answered, in 2003 the department installed computers in every truck and in the event of an emergency the address will show up on the screen and direct them to the incident. Currently, the system gives building plans and other additional information.

Chief Camara noted that the mechanic shop also services certain HPD and EMS response vehicles. Mr. DeMello added that for HPD, the shop aids them with the specifications, maintenance, and repairs with funds funded by HPD.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the department is working on certification programs for mechanics and explained it could assist with recruitment for the department.

Fire Chief Neves mentioned that the department is currently asking for 4 mechanic positions in the upcoming year. A Power Point presentation will be shown at a later time.

Commissioner Morton asked about the space of the mechanic shop.

Fire Chief Neves informed the Commission that the department is working towards a partnership with the state and federal government to obtain a piece of parcel in the Mililani Tech Park area with a long term goal of relocating its mechanic's shop.

Commissioner Hong asked about salaries. Mr. DeMello went over salaries within the private sectors.

Mr. DeMello mentioned that the department is working with Honolulu Community College (HCC) in reopening the apprentice program as well as working with DHR on recruits.

Mr. DeMello mentioned that the department is looking into creative ways to bring in future recruits.

Fire Chief Neves went over HCC's fire science program and mentioned how it's in line with the department's fire fighter recruit 2 training program.

Fire Chief Neves informed the Commission that the department is trying to get students interested in the program with possible internship.

Commissioner Nekota asked if the department is looking at other community colleges besides HCC.

Chief Bratakos mentioned that Leeward Community College (LCC) has an excellent electronic tech program.

Commissioner Hong asked what is the difference between entry level fire fighter and entry level mechanics.

Mr. DeMello answered entry-level mechanics make around \$65,000 year.

Mr. DeMello went over out of service with the Commission and indicated that it means there is a safety issue with the engine and the number changes daily.

Chair Nagamine complimented Mr. DeMello and Fire Chief Neves on an excellent report.

Fire Chief Neves asked if the December meeting could be deferred to January.

Fire Chief Neves asked if there were any questions. There were none.

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Review Pursuant to Council Resolution No. 18-298, CD1 re: Fire Recruit Training and Testing Programs. Commissioner Lee moved and Commissioner Morton seconded that the Commission go into executive session regarding Council Resolution No. 18-298, CD1, to "consult with the board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities" with regard to these matters [HRS Sec. 92-5(a)(4)]. By unanimous vote, the Commission went into executive session at 2:50 p.m. and the regular public meeting reconvened at 2:54 p.m.

VII. Discussion of potential changes of rules, policies and procedures of the Fire Commission. Commissioner Hannemann moved and Commissioner Morton seconded that the Commission go

into executive session regarding potential changes of rules, policies and procedures of the Fire Commission, and to “consult with the board’s attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the board’s powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities” with regard to these matters [HRS Sec. 92-5(a)(4)]. By unanimous vote, the Commission went into executive session at 2:54 p.m. and the regular public meeting reconvened at 2:56 p.m.

VIII. ANNOUNCEMENT: The next Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 2 p.m. in the Honolulu Fire Department Auditorium.

IX. ADJOURNMENT: There being no other business, Commissioner Morton moved and Commissioner Hong seconded that the meeting be adjourned. By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Nadine Murata, Secretary.

APPROVED:

CRAIG NAGAMINE, Chair